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## **INDEPENDENCE SEAPORT MUSEUM ANNOUNCES NEW SPOOK-TACULAR PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTING EXHIBITIONS AND ON-WATER ACTIVITIES**

**Photos:** [HERE](#)

**Philadelphia, PA | August 29, 2022** – [Independence Seaport Museum](#) (ISM) is celebrating the fall season with special programming and events to provide guests with exciting opportunities to discover Philadelphia’s river of history and world of connections. Throughout October, ISM’s staff will host a new Halloween-inspired series inside the museum along with haunted tours of its historic ships, where guests will hear spooky stories of sailors from the past. Fans of the family-favorite on-water program [Paddle Penn’s Landing](#) can also look forward to a [costume contest](#). ISM will host special engagements throughout the fall season, including the [Walnut2Walnut River Challenge](#) and the [Philadelphia Maker Faire](#).

### **Halloween Programming & Events**

During October, the Museum will launch [Spooky Sundays at the Seaport](#), where visitors join the education staff each Sunday to explore special ghoulish themes. Discover what fish and creatures lurk beneath the water in the Paddle Penn’s Landing Boat Basin at “River Invaders,” or learn about the origins behind nautical legends with “Mermaids and Monsters.” Find out the possible impacts of “Sea Level Rise” or join seafarers to learn whether “Ghost Ships,” ships found without a living crew, were ever discovered on the Delaware River.

Every Friday and Saturday in October, guests can dive deep into the darker side of Cruiser *Olympia* and Submarine *Becuna*’s history through the [Hazardous Duty Tour](#). The new, hour-long guided experience will focus on how sailors became injured or lost their lives while serving aboard vessels. Due to the subject matter, ISM recommends this tour for visitors 13 years or older. Audience discretion is advised.

On October 23, join ISM for a special [Paddle Penn’s Landing Costume Contest](#), where visitors dressed in their Halloween costume to paddle will receive \$5 off their reservation. The winner will receive complimentary tickets to visit the Museum. That same afternoon, local lifestyle company Aqua Vida will host a [Witches Paddle](#), allowing visitors to enjoy an afternoon of paddle board yoga in the basin.

### **Special Fall Engagements**

On Saturday, October 1, experienced paddlers can embark on ISM’s [Walnut2Walnut River Challenge](#), where participants embark on a 15-mile kayak trek starting at Schuylkill Banks Park that ends in ISM’s boat basin. The course allows paddlers to take in stunning views of the city and passes by several notable locations, including the Philadelphia Navy Yard, Walt Whitman Bridge, and the SS *United States*. Registration for the Walnut2Walnut River Challenge is available [online](#) for \$75 and \$65 for ISM members. Participants must be 18 years or older to register.

On October 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., ISM will host the annual [Philadelphia Maker Faire](#), a volunteer-organized, family-friendly celebration featuring DIY experiments and projects by local engineers, artists,

scientists, and craft artisans. The Maker Faire highlights the recent resurgence of Philadelphia's culture of making within the city's tech, startup, and artistic communities. Ticket prices vary and are available [online](#).

### **Last Chance**

ISM will continue to offer additional opportunities to explore Philadelphia's waterways. [Kayak Excursions](#) continue on select weekends through October 22, providing guests the choice of six specially curated tours designed to give unique perspectives of the Delaware River. Excursions range from three to ten miles and offer beginner to advanced options. Guided paddle trips are between \$50 to \$85 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be found [HERE](#).

For visitors looking for a more casual on-water experience, [Paddle Penn's Landing](#) will continue into fall, allowing families to enjoy an afternoon paddling around the Penn's Landing basin in a kayak, rowboat, or paddleboat. From now through October 23, hours will change to weekends-only from noon to dusk. All Paddle Penn's Landing activities are \$12 per person for a half-hour rental. Visitors are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance on ISM's [website](#).

ISM continues to partner with neighboring organizations to highlight the hidden history of Philadelphia's waterways. Discover nearly 100 years of naval innovation through ISM and Battleship *New Jersey's* [Deck-to-Deck Tours](#). Embark on a three-hour, guided tour through Battleship *New Jersey*, Submarine *Becuna*, and Cruiser *Olympia* to get an up-close look at prime naval ingenuity that includes light refreshments served at ISM. The final Deck-To-Deck Tour takes place on November 5. Tickets can be purchased [online](#) for \$100 per person.

### **Year-Round Programming**

Families are welcome to explore one of the largest maritime artifact collections in North America. The award-winning immersive exhibition, [River Alive!](#), gives visitors an up-close look at the wildlife, science, and wonder of the Delaware River. Additional exhibitions include [Tides of Freedom: African Presence on the Delaware River](#), [The 2022 Ecotopian Toolkit Project](#), and [Patriots & Pirates](#).

At [The Seaport Boat Shop](#), visitors can interact with ISM's boat builders as they work on various projects or enroll in programs for high school students and adults alike. Starting October 15 and running various times throughout the year, the area's finest teaching craftspeople lead workshops on various subjects, including [metal forging](#) and metal casting. Prices for workshops vary. The minimum age for the program is 16 years old, with an adult present.

The Museum continues its efforts to educate the public about its historical vessels docked along the landing. Adjacent to the Museum are [Cruiser Olympia](#), the oldest floating steel warship, and [Submarine Becuna](#), a World War II-era Balao-class submarine. Self-guided and Guided Tours are available for both vessels, with add-on options to explore *Olympia's* Admiral's Quarters and the Engine Room led by a member of ISM's historic ship staff.

Before leaving ISM, visitors are encouraged to stop by the gift shop to find the perfect souvenir for the nautical lover in their life. Featuring a curated selection of items made by local artisans, with themes ranging from nautical to the City of Brotherly Love, there's something for everyone. All gift shop proceeds are re-invested in the ISM's programs, historic ships, and collections.

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**About Independence Seaport Museum**

Independence Seaport Museum encourages visitors to discover Philadelphia's river of history and world of connections. Stewards of Cruiser *Olympia* and World War II-era Submarine *Becuna*, ISM is home to a boatbuilding workshop, interactive exhibitions, and one of the largest collections of historic maritime artifacts in the world. Visitors can explore the historic and beautiful Delaware River first-hand by renting a boat from the Museum or by participating in one of our kayak excursions. The Independence Seaport Museum is the premier, year-round destination on the Penn's Landing waterfront. Visit daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and see our full schedule of programs and events at [phillyseaport.org](http://phillyseaport.org).